

The following claims are presented for examination:

1. (currently amended) A method comprising:
routing a set-up message to a plurality of nodes in ~~a~~ **at least one** transport network,
wherein said set-up message reserves network resources for a plurality of traffic paths
through said transport network as said set-up message visits each of said plurality of nodes;
and
routing said set-up message to said plurality of nodes in said transport network,
wherein said set-up message provisions **said reserved** network resources for said plurality
of traffic paths through said transport network as said set-up message revisits each of said
plurality of nodes.
2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein at least one of said plurality
of traffic paths is a working path ~~in a SONET network~~ and wherein at least one of said
plurality of traffic paths is a protection path for said working path.
3. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said set-up message revisits each of
said plurality of nodes in the reverse order in which said set-up message visits each of said
plurality of nodes.
4. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said transport network is a mesh
network.
5. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said transport network is a ring
network.
6. (new) The method of claim 1 wherein at least one of said plurality of traffic paths
is a multicast traffic path.
7. (new) The method of claim 1 wherein some of said plurality of nodes are in a
first transport network and some of said nodes are in a second transport network.
8. (new) A method comprising:
routing a set-up message to a plurality of nodes in at least one transport network,
wherein said set-up message reserves network resources for a plurality of traffic paths
through said transport network as said set-up message visits each of said plurality of nodes;
and

instructing each of said plurality of nodes in said transport network to provision said reserved network resources after some time interval unless the node is directed otherwise by said set-up message.

9. (new) The method of claim 7 wherein at least one of said plurality of traffic paths is a working path and wherein at least one of said plurality of traffic paths is a protection path for said working path.

10. (new) The method of claim 7 wherein at least one of said plurality of traffic paths is a multicast traffic path.

11. (new) The method of claim 7 wherein some of said plurality of nodes are in a first transport network and some of said nodes are in a second transport network.

12. (new) A method comprising:
routing a set-up message to a plurality of nodes in at least one transport network, wherein said set-up message reserves network resources for a plurality of traffic paths through said transport network as said set-up message visits each of said plurality of nodes; and

spawning at least one subordinate set-up message as a proxy to revisit at least one of said plurality of nodes, wherein said subordinate set-up message provisions said reserved network resources for as said subordinate set-up message revisits said plurality of nodes.

13. (new) The method of claim 12 wherein at least one of said plurality of traffic paths is a working path and wherein at least one of said plurality of traffic paths is a protection path for said working path.

14. (new) The method of claim 12 wherein at least one of said plurality of traffic paths is a multicast traffic path.

15. (new) The method of claim 12 wherein some of said plurality of nodes are in a first transport network and some of said nodes are in a second transport network.

16. (new) A method comprising:
routing a set-up message to a plurality of nodes in at least one transport network, wherein said set-up message reserves network resources for a plurality of traffic paths through said transport network as said set-up message visits each of said plurality of nodes; and

revisiting said plurality of nodes with one or more set-up messages, wherein said set-up messages provision said reserved network resources for said plurality of traffic paths through said transport network as said multicast messages revisit each of said plurality of nodes.

17. (new) The method of claim 16 wherein at least one of said plurality of traffic paths is a working path and wherein at least one of said plurality of traffic paths is a protection path for said working path.

18. (new) The method of claim 16 wherein at least one of said plurality of traffic paths is a multicast traffic path.

19. (new) The method of claim 16 wherein some of said plurality of nodes are in a first transport network and some of said nodes are in a second transport network.